

Good afternoon Co-chair Frederick, Co-chair McLain, and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Katrina Hull and I am an engineering teacher at Douglas McKay High School in Salem. I'm here today to urge you to fully fund the \$5.4M STEM investment in SB 5513. This investment will allow Oregon to continue its work to engage diverse learners who have historically lacked access to STEM opportunities through the Regional STEM Hub Network, STEM Innovation Grants, and the Oregon Mathways effort.

Throughout my teaching career both as a math teacher and now as a CTE Engineering teacher I am fully bought into the importance of STEM education and the critical thinking skills students are able to foster when diving into STEM projects.

Douglas McKay High School has over 2,300 students. There are 28 different languages spoken at McKay. Over 95% of our students qualify for free or reduced lunch. Despite many challenges, McKay is full of life and personality!

Extracurricular activities that I help to facilitate include our Lemelson- MIT InvenTeam, our after school Math Engineering Science Achievement chapter, and our 2021 Samsung Solve for Tomorrow STEM Invention Team give our students access to STEM opportunities that stretch their horizons. Our students at McKay are succeeding on a national stage, and believing that it's possible for them to become inventors, scientists, doctors, and engineers.

This is possible because of my community of support and professional development opportunities that I have engaged in surrounding STEM. As a teacher, I have confidence to walk with my students through these engaging projects that I do not know what the outcome will be. Our STEM Hubs and STEM Innovation Grants make it possible for teachers across the state of Oregon to be confident in supporting students as they engage in STEM.

Fully funding the \$5.4M STEM investment in SB 5513 will continue the work of providing young Oregonians the skills needed to thrive in a changing economy ultimately building Oregon's economic well-being.